TIMES-VIRGINIAN
In the Heart of Virginia's Dark Tobacco Belt
Appomattox, Virginia

ESTABLISHED 1892

Mr. and Mrs. Calvin Robinson ...... *Editors and Publishers*

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EDITORIAL OPINION

JUNIOR C. OF C.

The Times-Virginian is happy to see the organization of a Junior Chamber of Commerce in Appomattox. This should fill a long-felt need in our growing community. Many times we have cited the need of a senior Chamber of Commerce, to boost Appomattox. Maybe the organization of a Junior C. of C. will be the stepping stone to that. We urge all citizens to give full co-operation to these civic - minded young men who are pooling their energy and progressive ideas to work for the good of the community.

We urge other young men, 21 to 35, to look up the officers of the new group, and join with them.

Get Your Red Hots Here!

Another baseball season is underway. In ball parks all over the country the crowds are turning out for this American sport.

A culinary delicacy which is also American goes with baseball. That's the hot dog. Last year the incredible total of 8,500,000,000 of these edible canines were consumed. And the dog's cousin, the frankfurter, is also being consumed in steadily increasing quantities.

We are a country of meat eaters. Save for a few small countries, we lead the world in per capita meat production. Beef is now the favorite of al lmeats, having passed pork in 1953.

WE NEED MORE CITIZENS LIKE THIS

(The Corpus Christi, Texas, Times)

Let us rise and sing praises, brethren, to Robert S. Alexander, aged 47, president of the manufacturing concern of Wells-Gardner Co., of Chicago.

Brother Andexander signed his name to a check for $390,000 to the United States Treasury, repersenting what he considered unearned profits for parts his firm delivered to the Navy. The Navy said he was under no obligation to return anything.

But Alexander discovered his plant was able to turn out the parts for less than the contract called for, so the Navy accepted his check and sent it on to the Treasury.

"We don't believe in gypping the government," Alexander expalined. "The government is the people, and we're the people."

This naive, old-fashioned idea is extremely rare in an age when gypping the government has become a popular sport.

We do not expect Alexander's forthright honestness will set a general pattern, desirable as that may be; but if every contractor who has taken a long profit on war contracts would emulate his example, it is possible Congress would not have to hike the national debt limit to make room for the swelling public debt.

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Traffic Safety

While 1954 saw a slight decrease in the nation's automobile accident toll, nearly two million casualties were recorded.

Even with the slight improvement over the more than two million reported in 1953, the results are staggering.

The Travelers Insurance Companies of Hartford, Connecticut report 35,500 persons killed and 1,960,000 injured in 1954. Excessive speed was the most dangerous driving mistake in 1954. Speed killed 12,380 people and injured more than 659,000.

Week-end crashes accounted for 13,980 killed and 678,000 hurt during 1954. Thirty-nine per cent of the deaths and 35 per cent of the injuries occurred on Saturdays and Sundays last year.

Three out of four auto accidents happened to passenger cars driving in clear weather on dry roads, and 78 per cent of vehicles involved in fatal accidents were traveling straight ahead.

These are grim statistics. The above figures point out that accidents are heavy, even though state and community autorities have spent millions of dollars in an effort to provide safer and better roads and saner driving.

YEARLY SESSIONS?

(From: Richmond Times-Dispatch)

All the State Legislatures except those of Virginia, Kentucky, and Mississippi are holding regular sessions this year.

Fourteen of the Legislatures meeting this year will also meet in 1956. That many States now have annual legislative sessions.

The last four to join the session-every-year group were Georgia, Kansas, Louisiana and West Virginia. Voters in those States on No. 2, 1954, approved constitutional amendments providing for yearly legislative meetings.

Unsuccessful efforts have been made in the Virginia General Assembly to start the ball rolling toward annual sessions. To change from biennial to annual sessions would require approval by two consecutive sessions of the General Assembly and then approval by the voters in a referendum.

Last year the Virginia State Senate voted, 21 to 16, for a resolution calling for the necessary constitutional amendment, but the measure was killed in the House Rules Committee.

It is generally proposed that the "off-year" sessions be of 30-day duration (as contrasted to the biennial 60-day meetings), and that they be devoted primarily to money bills. Most States with annual sessions folow that general plan.

The main argument is that it is impossible for the General Assembly to make accurate estimates of revenues and expenditures 30 months in advance, as it is required to do under the present biennial system. The annual plan makes for sounder budgeting, its proponents claim.

That argument can hardly be disputed. But there are drawbacks to annual sessions — principally the cost and the possible added difficulty of getting qualified citizens to run for the Assembly. Some persons who are willing to devote two consecutive months every two years to State service might not be willing to interrupt their normal business activities for an additional month half-way between the two longer sessions.

Sentiment for annual sessions appears to be gaining, and undoubtedly proponents will have resolutions ready for the Virginia General Assembly which convenes next January. Yearly meetings may not be desirable, but ecrtainly careful consideration of the whole idea is justified.

The whole idea is timely and important enough to merit some attention from the candidates in the forthcoming legisaltive campaign.

THOMAS JEFFERSON

(Winchester Star)

Thomas Jefferson, the nation's third president, was the spiritual father of his country. No other man's ideas and philosophy have remotely approached his in their influence on America's institutions and its devotion to freedom. He was the author of the Declaration of Independence.

He was born 212 years ago on April 13, but not many Americans, outside his native Virginia, could give you the date. That may not be because no war occurred during his Presidency to suggest honoring the birthday of the man who swore on the altar of God eternal hostility to every form of tyranny over the mind of man. It may be partly for a more trivial reason; some people are superstitious about the 13th day of the month.

Most of the beliefs most typical of America at its best were the beliefs of Jefferson. His thinking ran far ahead of accepted political practice. He opposed retribution as a factor in the punishment of criminals, and the expert view of today supports him; but retribution still looms large in our penal practices.

He was a fervent believer in liberty for the individual as the most practical safeguard for American security; the contrary view is rampant today. America still has more to learn from Thomas Jefferson.

Mr. Jefferson, as he is called in his native state, lived a full life, and a long one. He was interested in all ideas; gifted in arts, sciences, mathematics, philosophy; gifted in politics, strong in his convictions but never a fanatic, radical in his feelings and conservative in his methods. He lived to the age of 83, carried on a voluminous correspondence at home and abroad, and influenced the best of his contemporaries.

America may have forgotten the date of his birthady, but each year the date of his death is celebrated. For he died on July 4, 1826, on his country's fiftieth birthday, half a century after his Declaration of Independence was proclaimed to the world.

MORE LIFE, AND FULLER

(From: The New York Times)

Tennyson wrote many years ago that it is ilfe, not death, for which we pant, more life and fuller. He was speaking against Victorian pessimism. No such dark mood darkens our path today. We are not pessimistic about the value of life. What we fear are the things that strike life down—the hatreds, the bitternesses, the viruses, the lust for dominion. The scientists produce weapons which sometimes make us doubt that the human race can long survive on this earth. And then, by the same methods, by the same careful study in laboratories, by the same minute tabulation of facts, by the same extensions of logic, they give us back our hope.

This was what happened on the second day after Easter when the word came from Ann Arbor, Mich., that "the vaccine works." The vaccine was, of course, that which was produced by Dr. Jonas E. Salk after many years of experimentation by many researchers and which has been shown to be effective against the three crippling and killing types of infantile paralysis. The doctors have their words of caution, but they do not need to be too restrained in their assertions. A great weight has been lifted from the minds of many millions of parents who feared that this one dreadful disease might kill or handicap their children.

In all the resutling enthusiasm and excitment we must not forget that poliomyelitis, although a terrible disease, has not been as widespread as many other maladies. It has seriously attacked a comparatively few thousand children each year. It has crippled a comparatively small fraction of those attacked. But it has spread fear. It has produced a sense of helplessness. Now the fear and helplessness are almost gone.

Poliomyletitis thus seems destined to go the way of other diseases against which mankind was once helpless. In one way or another smallpox, scarlet fever, diphtheria, typhoid, dysentery, malaria, tuberculosis, pneumonia and other diseases have been driven back. They are either gone or they are not the killers they used to be. We can measure this conquest of death statistically. For instance, the life expectancy of a baby born in America has risen since 1900 from 50 to nearly 70 years. Deaths from diseases of the circulatory system and form cancer have increased, but this increase has been largely due beyond much doubt to more accurate reporting and to the fact that more people live to a relatively advanced age.

We can look ahead now with reasonable confidence to a considerable amount of success against even the remaining killers. Science, having conquered one field, moves on to another, and this is as true in medicine as it is in atomic physics. The end is not yet.

VIRGINIA: THE WILD FRONTIER

(The Richmond News Leader)

Young'uns—and Virginia younguns, at that—are being misled with all the singing about the wild frontier out west. Viewed from one significant set of statistics, Virginia is the most frontier-like of all the states.

The current bulletin of the State Commission of Game and Inland Fisheries finds that in the past year Virginia edged from tenth to ninth place among all the states in the number of hunting licenses sold. For the year ended June 30, 1954, 28,783 more people bought hunting licenses than in the previous year. The increase in fishing licenses kept pace with 32,328.

Total hunting license sales came to 501,899 — topping the half-million mark for the first time— and fishing licenses numbered 425,542. Further, the ranks of the hunters and the fishers can be swelled by some 200,000 landowners and tenants who don't have to buy licenses.

Game Commissioner I. T... figures one out of three p... Virginia hunts and fishes... ratio puts Virginia right... top of the 48 states in the... ta hunting and fishing p... Illinois, for instance, with... a half times Virginia's to... lation, sells only 25,000 m... ing licenses.

While some of the increa... cent years arises from ... servicemen who want "to ... something that can't shoo... Mr. Quinn believes that th... instinct goes back much fu... to the settlers at Jamest... fact. It's his stout theory ... ginia was settled in the ma... seekers after poiltical or ... freedom, or land-hungry ... or younger sons looking fo... start, but simply by crowd... lish yeomen looking for ... to hunt and fish. In Mr. ... book, Davy Crockett would ... comer on the scene.

WORD TROUBLE

(Oklahoma City Oklah...)

In Oklahoma City, a ... er's mother objected to ha... take a pre-junior high sch... tude test. "There's no poi... ing him an aptitude test," ... his teacher. "He's apt to ... anything anyway."

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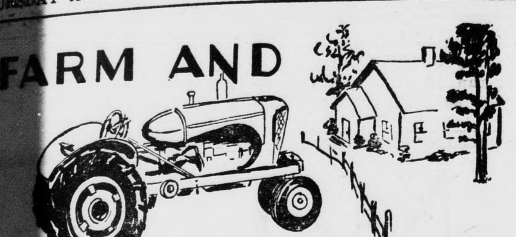

Coming Events

April 22.- Spring Feeder Calf Sale—Winchester.

April 23.- Aberdeen Angus Sale —Tappahannock.

April 23.- Hereford Sale —Roanoke.

May 7.- Appomattox 4-H Honor Club meeting — County Agent's Office.

May 14.- Little International Livestock Fitting and Showing Contest—V. P. I.

July 4-8.- Rural Ministers' Summer School—V. P. I.

Save Excess Forage In Early Season

Excess forage saved early in the growing season will come in handy next winter.

Silage or hay saved in this manner also may help to provide feed during dry summer weather when pastures are short, advises Jim Smith, County Agent.

There generally is plenty of pasture in May and early June, since most forage plants make half their yield in the first two months of the growing season.

Fertilizer Returns Dollars In Corn Yields

The proper amount and analysis of fertilizer is of prime importance when it comes to producing high yields of corn.

The increased cost of applying a little more fertilizer, buying more seed, and following the other practices recommended for high corn yields, will increase the dollars in your pocket at harvest time, says County Agent, Jim Smith.

In 1,000 pounds of 10-10-10 fertilizer or its equivalent there is about enough plant food to produce 80 bushels of corn. If you apply this amount and analysis of fertilizer, any yield of corn above 80 bushels per acre must be produced on fertility from other sources. A soil test will indicate the level of fertility, particularly phosphorus and potassium, and will serve as a guide for applying fertilizer at the proper amount and analysis. As a general rule, nitrogen will need to be added as a side-dressing in addition to the regular fertilizer application if you expect high yields and efficient production.

Low fertiilty soils need more nutrients than do high fertility soils. On poor, coarse-textured soils, better results can be expected with several frequent applications spread through the season than when all fertilizer is applied at once.

The yield and quality of previous crops is also an indication of fertility needs.

Good Stand of Corn

There are many tricks of the trade in producing high yields of corn—but whatever else, the stalks must be on the land.

Jim Smith, County Agent, offers some suggestions for getting good stands of corn.

Prepare a good seedbed. It should be free of clods, compact underneath and loose on top. A poor seedbed is a short-cut to a poor stand.

Plant at the right depth—about one inch deep in a well - prepared seedbed. Three inches is considered deep. As the soil dries and warms up from the surface downward, late plantings may be made a little deeper than one inch. Check condition of the runner on your planter and replace if needed.

Use the correct planter plate. Hybrid corn seed is graded. Be sure to use the right plate for the grade you are planting. This will help to get proper dropping of corn.

Plant thick. Plant full - season hybrids at the rate of 14,000 to 16,000 kernels per acre. Plant early varieties at the rate of 16,000 to 20,000 kernels per acre. In 42-inch rows a kernel every 9½ inches will give 16,000 kernels per acre, while a kernel every 8½ inches will give 18,000 kernels per acre.

Don't run your tractor too fast. For porper planting, the planter speed should not be over 3 miles per hour.

Newcastle Vaccine Administered Through Water

Newcastle disease can be prevented satisfactorily by placing vaccine in drinking water for young chicks, says County Agent Jim Smith.

VPI research workers suggest using the regular intranasal vaccine in one quart of water for every 100 chicks when the chicks are from 4 to 10 days old. The directions of the manufacturer should be followed carefully.

Vaccination of older birds by this method has been less satisfactory.

Proteins in Rations For Beef Cattle Being Wintered

The various sources of protein, and the value of different supplements to hay and corn silage in the wintering ration of growing calves, have been the object of an extensive study at VPI Agricultural Experiment Station.

Now after a four-year period, animal husbandmen at the Station have several observations to make about these tests.

Average daily gains have been from 3/4 to 1 pound per day with 400 pound heifer calves receiving 3 pounds of supplement, 4 pounds of hay and 8 pounds of corn silage per day.

When the hay was a legume, corn and cob meal produced about as much gain as grain mixtures with 20% or more protein.

When the hay was grass or mixed hay, gains were increased by grain mixtures that provided one pound of oil meal or its equivalent per head per day; but gains were not increased by upping the oil meal to 1½ pounds or more per day.

Purdue cattle supplement A and another complex supplement with vitamins and minerals showed no advantage over ordinary oil meals.

Feather meal appears to be a satisfactory source of protein for beef cattle, provided it is fed in a grain mixture containing no more than 25% feather meal.

In these tests, ½ pound of 80% feather meal and 2½ pounds of corn and cob meal were equivalent to 1 pound of 40% oil meal and 2 pounds of corn and cob meal per day. There were indications that mixtures containing 1/3 feather meal were unpalatable to some calves.

One prelminary test with urea suggested that gains may drop when urea is added to a ration that already has enough protein to meet growth needs.

FLASH:-

We wish to announce that MR. CHAS. W. RALEY, who has had SEVENTEEN YEARS EXPERIENCE in the "CONSTRUCTION AND BUILDING MATERIALS" business, is NOW "GENERAL MANAGER OF OUR COMPANY." Get his CONSTRUCTIVE SUGGESTIONS" on "BUILDING THAT NEW HOME, ATTIC OR RECREATION ROOM" you have wanted. He will be "very glad" to discuss ideas with you at anytime. DO IT NOW IN THE WINTER MONTHS AND SAVE. Mr. Raley will recommend capable CONTRACTORS OR CARPENTERS who will meet with your approval.

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SKYLINE TOURS FOR NATURE LOVERS

Luray, Va.- The woods are full of them .. and whether they're plant or animal in the Shenandoah National Park, there are experienced naturalists at the Park's two tourist centers to tell about them.

The National Park Service opened its annual naturalist program at Big Meadows Lodge on Saturday, April 9. Big Meadows Lodge is one of the resort areas on the Skyline Drive in the Park. The other is Skyland, opening May 20.

Lectures are scheduled Mondays, Wednesdays and Saturdays through May 21. The remainder of the lecture schedule is as follows: From May 21 through June 25, Mondays, Wednesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays; from June 26 through September 3, daily except Sundays and Tuesdays, and from September 3 through October 29, Mondays, Wednesdays and Saturdays.

Experienced park naturailsts conduct the free illustrated natural history lectures at the two lodges the outdoor campfire programs, the guided trips to outstanding points of interest in the Park and the nature walks that compose the naturalist program.

Guided trips through the Park to natural wonders that are preserved under the direction of the National Park Service will be conducted from May 10 through June 11 on Sundays, Tuesdays and Saturdays and daily except Mondays form June 12 through September 5.

The 190,000 acre National Park abounds with attractions of interest to nature lovers, ranging from a variety of wild plant and animal life to fascinating geological formations and panoramic views.

The Park is located in the highest and most scenic section of the Northern Blue Ridge range. Along this ridge and through the Park runs the Skyline Drive, a 105-mile highroad—in every sense of the word—offering unparalled views of the Blue Ridge Mountains, the eastern section of the Shenandoah Valley and Piedmont Virginia.

Brooklyn Dodgers off to a fast start in National League.

BABYSITTING TIPS

Tips on ways with children and what to do in emergencies are forthcoming for babysitters from home economists at VPI.

The economists advise babysitters to know where the parents are and what they want them to do if an emergency arises. If baby is hurt, call the physician which the parents have designated for you; then call the parents.

A good babysitter should know the general floor plan of the house, location of the light switches, and telephone, and where the baby's clothes, bottles, etc. are kept.

Some do's and dont's are to keep the outside doors locked and not open them for strangers. The telephone line should be kept open for important calls, since baby sitting is really a business transaction like any other job.

Babysitters will be more relaxed and develop a better sense of humor if they keep in mind the difficulties children have, and learn to adjust to the children's environment.

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